



## A sunburnt country: The economic and financial impact of drought on rural and regional families in Australia in an era of climate change

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### Abstract:

Australia is indeed a sunburnt country, and is arguably becoming increasingly sunburnt. If most climate predictions are correct, much of Australia will experience droughts even more often. This paper uses the Rural and Regional Families Survey to explore the economic and financial implications of drought in regional Australia. Drought has significant negative economic impacts, with large effects on the experience of financial hardship and deterioration in household financial position—especially for farmers and farm managers who reported that the current drought had reduced property output substantially. The study also identifies some heterogeneous patterns of mobility within many drought-affected households. It is important that policy makers understand the complex processes of adjustment that occur in times of drought in order to enable them to prepare for the changes that will take place if our worst fears about climate change are realised.

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### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Public

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Precipitation

**Extreme Weather Event:** Drought

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

## **Geographic Feature:**

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Rural

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Australasia

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

## **Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Low Socioeconomic Status, Racial/Ethnic Subgroup, Workers

**Other Racial/Ethnic Subgroup:** Indigenous

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content